Applicant respectfully requests examination on the merits of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 10, 2002

(Mrs.) Joy D. Morrow Reg. No. 30911

Smart & Biggar 438 University Avenue Suite 1500, Box 11 Toronto, Ontario Canada M5G 2K8 Telephone: (416) 593-5514

Fax: (416) 591-1690

Encls. Sequence Listing disc Print pages 1/17 to 17/17